

Count Esterhazy is now in St. Petersburg, and

goes that he has been strongly backed by some representatives of the smaller States of Germany and Prussia. The Austrian army, though reduced, such a condition that it can, at the shortest notice, be again put on the war footing, provided somebody willing to pay—the drummer. The loss of the Austrian army was a forced financial loss which was necessary to prevent a new State bank which would have done, however, nothing else. We shall soon see, however, that the Austrian situation will have at this moment what extent she may be trusted. In the present insist on the perfect understanding which exists between France and Austria on one side and Austria and the other. This understanding has made the Emperor's present position.

In the French heart and believe in peace, and it is in spite of the warlike tone of the English press. A majority of ministers is also satisfied with the good of Austria, provided it will appear that she is not. In the opposite case you must expect a political crisis of the theatre of war next spring, and perhaps of Italy—perhaps in Germany. It is said that the basis of the proposition made by Austria to Italy was this: but this does not yet warrant the conclusion that it will be satisfied with the Austrian programme, and that programme must furnish the basis of negotiations. It shall have any other purpose than mercy to Austria. An additional excuse for the position of Austria

What is certain now is that Count E. Austria is not blemish of an ultimatum to Russia. It is not whether Russia accept or reject the olive branch, Austria will not go to war with her. Austria has certainly agreed in the treaty of 24 December to declare war against Russia in certain cases, but it has not been decided, so that there is a difference of opinion between Austria and the Western Powers whether the case mentioned in the treaty is or is not a casus belli has actually arisen, or is overhanging the horizon, or is not. In the treaty recently concluded between the allied Powers and Sweden, the points which

But the *corvus belli* have been distinctly stated, and impose the obligation of the Western Powers in that direction, although the precise obligations of Sweden towards Russia can only be contained in a secret article. By imposing there is no such secret article; and that it expressly allows the Allied Powers the free use of her navy and army, summer, an immense advantage. It results from it that the Western Powers, if placed successively where they wish to be placed, and especially was thought the Austrian treaty of December would place them at the head of the conservative coalition, by giving Russia, by implication, at least, a character and position of the aggressor and disturber of the public peace. This was reconquering for France

Neither Austria, nor Sweden, nor Denmark could any time previous to the advent of Napoleon bear the weight of his influence on the side of France: no weight is certainly there, and if it does not to Russia in prompting peace, the situation is such that co-operation may be compelled next spring. The questions of the Hospodariat in the Principalities, the revolution in Italy, are pressing upon Austria measures preparing for the Baltic, and the state of opinion in Sweden, will compel action there; a

to be determined to turn a deaf ear to the remonstrances of the various Powers now interceding in his behalf (1866). This is what the Emperor personally counted upon, when he made this remarkable speech at the closing of the Industrial Exhibition; his words have had the desired effect, common as they were by French diplomats at every Congress in Europe; and the treaty with Sweden, as well as the renewed negotiations of Austria, which I predicted some time ago, are the consequences of that step. It will come to convince Europe of the pacific intention of the Emperor's Government, in order to justify the steps he has taken in foreign policy.

It is said that an answer to the Austrian proposal may be expected on the list of this month, from the Court of St. Petersburg, and however inconsiderable the Russian journals affect to be, and whatever doubts the Russian journals at Brussels, may throw upon the matter, my faith in peace remains unshaken. The Russian position is a very good one, and the support of the belligerents facilitates negotiations. The conduct of the war is useless and ruinous to all parties.

One great evil only will remain if peace is concluded, namely, that—Russia—not France—is the power that all must dread, as threatening the balance of power in Europe, while the present government of France, by crushing socialism, has done more towards pro-

line in a campaign against France. This fact alone is to give great weight to French diplomacy in the world, without precluding, however, the possibility of a return to liberal institutions, and the consequent rise in progressive ideas. France will thus be doing two things to her bow, while England will be doing two things to her back. It is not for Spain to play a secondary part (*rolino subordinato*) in the game of European politics, and it is not for Russia and England will have been banished to the periphery of the world, while France alone will have been ruced to the field and in the cabinet.

The city of Rome is still deserted by strangers. The presence of the Russian Minister, and the withdrawal of those of Spain and Sardinia home, let it be said, full; but though the people feel the unproductive

Rome, though the centre of Catholic Christianity, is not the centre of the world, is now nothing else but a jumping place. It seems to be out of Europe, jumping off to an American, for it doubles the distance to New York, a letter from America to London, a letter from London to America, and the distance is bridged by the regular mail. Here, for instance, on the 1st of January, and yet we have not got the *Principe* of a later date than the 5th of December. We have, however, seen the *National Intelligence* of the 1st of December, that paper having been got through by the government. The *Herald* and *Principe* have been read by the Ephores of public and private libraries.

I would not make an invidious charge against any individual or any religious group; but I expect to see them in a multitude of the rich things being cut out by the government officials.

The number I saw received in the Philippines, is the fact that the whole administration of the government, including Chief of Police, is in the hands of the clergy, the Director of the only college in the Philippines, the

to strangers, who submit to it only for a hostile purpose, and which cannot be otherwise than galling to the oppressed. It is deemed to endure it for *him*. If the police are so exceedingly watchful to prevent the circulation and spreading of ideas, were equally on the alert as regards thieves and highway robbers, Rome would be a very different place. The police would be as vigilant to defend the life and wealth. But this is not the case. Hence the police merely extends to the governed neither strangers nor the people themselves be secured secure in life and property. It is bad enough that the civil government of a country places itself in the head of the church also; but it is certainly worse that the church itself assumes the civil and judicial functions of the state.

It was one thing for Rome to become rich and powerful through the contributions of all Catholic countries, and another to create a revenue from domestic sources. Now that Portugal furnishes both money to the Pope, and Spain and Sardinia a red farthing, the disposition between revenue and expenditures must naturally be felt; but notwithstanding the necessity to rely on commerce, and to draw at its lowest ebb by prohibiting duties on manufactures and agriculture are actually progressing forward instead of advancing with the progress of the staple articles of industry are still cambrics, and Roman pearls, with sundry ones of monarchical statues on a small scale for English and

larior ornaments. In every species of trade nations in all that constitutes modern civilization and the progress of the human mind, the same principle is above all things, the people here have become trade hypocrites. "You may be afraid of being in Italy, and must guard against it on all occasions," a most celebrated Italian gentleman of science and to me the other day, "but you need not mind *robbare* the diligence from Civita Vecchia to Rome was, no less, stopped the other day and robbed of 40,000 scudi by a band of thieves. This is the state of things in the brains of these people, for I have not seen the first man among them capable of understanding obligation or contracts. As to believing a man who says he will do you a service, or to whom you have said why they neither expect nor desire it. When it is seriously intended, it is at once reduced to nothing."

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